ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

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A pair of link arms (19A and 20A) each supported at one end thereof on an engine body (1) for swinging movement about an axis parallel to a rotational axis for a valve-operating cam (16) are connected at the other ends, for relative turning movement about an axis parallel to the rotational axis, directly to a rocker arm (18A) having a valve abutment (15) abutting against an engine valve (6) and a cam abutment (17) contacting with the valve-operating cam (16). At least any one of the link arms (19A and 20A) is swingably supported at one end thereof on the engine body (1) for continuous movement within a plane perpendicular to a rotational axis for the valve-operating cam Such an arrangement ensures that a valve-operating (16).system can be constructed compactly, and the opening lift amount of the engine valve can be changed continuously, while ensuring an excellent followability to the valve-operating cam.